(e) whether such imports liberalisation would affect the foreign exchange reserve adversely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir. According to the provisional estimates from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, exports in dollar value during the first five months (April—August) 1991 have fallen by 6.8 percent compared to the same period during the last year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Foreign Exchange Reserves level as on 5th December, 1991 is Rs. 7768 crores. Improvement in India's foreign exchange reserve is the net result of several factors on trade account, on account of invisibles and on capital account. Among the important factors contributing to improvement in the foreign exchange reserves are inflows under capital account from International Monetary Fund, a reduction in outflows on account of NRI deposits, inflows on account of development bonds; under invisibles account, inflows under remittances on account of Remittances in Foreign Exchange (Immunities) Scheme; and under trade account, import compression measures.

(d) and (e) As a part of the overall economic policy reform the trade policy including the import policy is also under review and import liberalisation would be attempted keeping in view the needs of the economy, export promotion and maintenance of a reasonable level of foreign exchange reserves.

Tax Evasion by Progressive Constructions Limited

1832. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Members of Parliament have submitted a representation to Government on 7th August, 1991 regarding evasion of taxes amounting to Rs. 25 crores by the Progressive Constructions Limited, Hyderabad and its group of concerns demanding investigations;

(b) if so, whether investigation into the affairs of the concern has been initiated;

(c) if so, the authority to whom investigations have been entrusted stating the terms of reference; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for delay and what is the present position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The concerned Chief Commissioner of Income-tax has been directed to enquire into the allegations in the aforesaid representation.

(d) Does not arise, in view of the reply to part (b) being in the affirmative.

Compulsory registration of marriages

1833. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration to make registration of marriages compulsory; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to make registration of marriages compulsory.

इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय में न्यायाधीशों के रिक्त पदों का भरा जाना

1834. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या **विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि '

(क) इलाहाबाद उच्च-न्यायालय में न्यायाधीशों की कुल संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ख) वर्तमान में इनमें से कितने पद खाली पड़े हैं और इन्हें कब तक भरे जाने की संभावना है ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और विधि, न्याय तथा कंपनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रंगराजन कुमारमंगलम्) ' (क) और (ख) इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय में स्थायी न्यायाधीशों और अपर न्यायाधीशों की स्वीकृत संख्या क्रमश' 58 और 3 है । इस समय 58 स्थायी न्यायाधीश पदासीन हैं और 3 अपर न्यायाधीशों के पद भरे जाने हैं । इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय में न्यायाधीशों के विद्यमान रिक्त पद भरे जाने के लिए सांविधानिक प्राधिकारियों से परामर्श चल रहा है । यह बताना संभव नहीं है कि ये पद कब तक भर दिए जाएंगे ।

Handing Over Travancore House to Government of Kerala

1835. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1292-D given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th September, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government had promised to the Chief Minister of Kerala that the Travancore House in New Delhi occupied by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission since 1973 will be vacated by November 1, 1991 and handed over to the Kerala State Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the promise was not honoured by Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and also the reasons therefor and by when it is expected to be vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The Government of India had assured the Government of Kerala that the Travancore House would be vacated by the M.R.T.P. Commission shortly after the alternative accommodation allotted to the Commission at Kota House Annexe is renovated and is ready for occupation. No firm date in this regard was indicated. The alternative accommodation at Kota House Annexe is almost ready except for certain minor items of repairs which are being carried out. The Commission expects to shift to the alternative premises as early as possible.

Teenage marriages in the country

1836. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of teenage marriages in different States during the last three years, state-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to prevent such marriages?